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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/437,239	11/10/1999	MASAAKI HYODO	1883-32	7692
23117	7590	12/28/2004	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			NGUYEN, HUY THANH	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2616

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/437,239 HUY T NGUYEN	HYODO ET AL. Art Unit 2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 9,10,12 and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 9,10,12 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. An application in which the benefits of an earlier application are desired must contain a specific reference to the prior application(s) in the first sentence of the specification or in an application data sheet (37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) and (a)(5)). The specific reference to any prior nonprovisional application must include the relationship (i.e., continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) between the applications except when the reference is to a prior application of a CPA assigned the same application number.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 18 November 2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujinami et al (5,504,585) in view of Roth (5,546,365).

Regarding claims 9 and 12, Fujinami discloses a recording /reproducing apparatus (Figs. 16 and 17, columns 17-18) for recording and reproducing multiplexed coded data and control data from a recording medium, the multiplexed coded data comprising coded audio-data and coded video-data and being recorded as a plurality of separate data-packs (column 11), the control data (entry points and TOC control data) being recorded separately from the multiplexed coded data (column 15, line 55 to column 16, line 15, column 17, lines 25-32), said reproducing apparatus comprising:

a recording medium controller (67,61) for reading the multiplexed coded data and control data ; and a coded data control section (67) for controlling the reproducing

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of the multiplexed coded data by controlling the recording medium controller based on the control data (column 18, lines 8-45) : wherein the control data includes the key-frame location information (location of I pictures) , the key-frame being at least one of an I-frame and P-frame, the key-frame location information including information on a head position of a data-pack including a head of the coded video-data of the key-frame (column 19, lines 55-65).

Fujinami further teach a memory (93) for storing the location of the key frame (entry point location (column 18, lines 1-17) and a table memory (68) for storing table of content data (TOC) used for selecting items to be reproduced (column 6, lines 22-35, column 17, lines 25-37). Fujinami fails to specifically teach that the table memory storing order of reproduction sequences .

Roth teaches a recording/ reproducing apparatus using a memory for storing orders of reproduction sequences of items (column 3, lines 59-66, column 7, lines 5-23, column 14, lines 41-52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Fujinami with Roth by using a table memory as taught by Roth for storing the reproduction sequence orders thereby enhancing the capability of the apparatus of Fujinami in selecting a desired sequence of recorded items to be reproduced.

Regarding claims 10 and 13, Fujinami further teaches that the key-frame location information also includes information on a head or a tail of coded video-data of the key-frame (column 15, lines 55-65, column 19, lines 55-65).

5. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honjo (6,006,007) in view of Fujinami et al (5,455,684) and Roth (5,546,365).

Regarding claims 9 and 12, Honjo discloses a reproducing apparatus (Figs. 3 and 4 column 2, lines 38-65) for reproducing multiplexed coded data and control data from a recording medium, the multiplexed coded data comprising coded video-data and being recorded as a plurality of separate data-packs, the control data being recorded separately from the multiplexed coded data, said reproducing apparatus comprising:

a recording medium controller (4) for reading the multiplexed coded data and control data ; and a coded data control section (6) for controlling the reproducing of the multiplexed coded data by controlling the recording medium controller based on the control data: wherein the control data includes the key-frame location information (addresses of I frames) , the key-frame being at least one of an I-frame and P-frame, the key-frame location information including information on a head position of a data-pack including a head of the coded video-data of the key-frame (Figs 1,2,4 and 5, columns 3 and 4)) or of the coded audio-data corresponding to the key-frame.

Honjo fails to specifically teach the medium further comprises audio coded data multiplexed with the video coded data .

Fujinami teaches a recording/ reproducing apparatus having a processing means for processing video coded data and audio coded data as packs and multiplexing audio coded and video coded data packs (column 12, Fig. 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Honjo with Fujinami by using a processing means as taught by Fujinami for additionally processing the audio coded data and multiplexing the audio coded data with the coded video data thereby enhancing the capability and functionality of the Honjo apparatus for additionally processing audio when needed.

Honjo as modified with Fujinami further teaches a memory (12) for storing the location of key frames (See Honjo, column 2, lines 21-32) and a table memory for storing the recoded items (See Fujinami Fig. 9, column 18, lines 20-25), but fails to teach the table memory storing orders of reproduction sequences as being recited in claims 9 and 12..

Roth teaches a recording/ reproducing apparatus using a memory for storing reproduction sequence orders (column 3, lines 59-66, column 7, lines 5-23, column 14, lines 41-52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Honjo as modified with Fujinami by using a memory for storing the reproduction sequence orders thereby enhancing the capability of the apparatus of Honjo in selecting a desired sequence of recorded items to be reproduced.

Regarding claims 10 and 13, Honjo further teaches that the key-frame location information also includes information on a head or a tail of coded video-data of the key-frame (Fig. 2).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4775. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on (703) 305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H.N


HUY T NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER